

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 NEA-14 IO-14 ISO-00 ACDE-00 SAM-01

NSCE-00 DRC-01 SSO-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 /086 W

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O R 291345Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1729

INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL MADRAS

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

USMISSION GENEVA

USLO PEKING

/CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 7108

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TECH, PFOR, IN, CH, PARM

SUBJECT: CHINESE DIPLOMAT'S COMMENTS ON THE INDIAN TEST

REF: GENEVA 3339 (NOTAL)

1. DURING CONVERSATION WITH AN EMBASSY OFFICER MAY 28, PRC
SECOND SECRETARY LI TA-NAN SAID IT WAS NATURAL PEKING HAD COM-
MENTED ONLY BRIEFLY ON THE INDIAN TEST IN THE PRESS. THE
EXPLOSION DID NOT AFFECT CHINA AND WAS NOT VIEWED AS A PARTI-
CULARLY IMPORTANT EVENT. IT WOULD, HOWEVER, DELAY AND COMPLICATE
IMPROVEMENT OF RELATIONS AMONG SOUTH ASIAN COUNTRIES. WAS THIS
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THE INDIAN RESPONSE, LI WONDERED, TO CHINESE STATEMENTS DURING

BHUTTO'S VISIT THAT CONDITIONS WERE FAVORABLE FOR NORMALIZING RELATIONS AMONG SUBCONTINENT STATES?

2. LI SAID FOREIGN SECRETARY (EAST) TRIVEDI WAS BRIEFING ASIAN AND AFRICAN DIPLOMATS IN DELHI ON THE TEST. BUT THE INDIANS HAD SAID NOTHING TO THE CHINESE HERE ABOUT IT. LI VOICED SUSPICION THAT THE SOVIETS KNEW OF THE TEST IN ADVANCE AND MAY HAVE AIDED THE INDIANS IN PREPARING IT; BUT HE ADMITTED HE HAD NO EVIDENCE OF THIS. HE SAID INDIAN TALK ABOUT PEACEFUL USES WAS NONSENSE MRS. GANDHI HAD INHERITED THE HYPOCRISY OF HER FATHER.

3. COMMENT: WE NOT CLOSE SIMILARITIES BETWEEN LI'S COMMENTS AND THOSE REPORTED FROM GENEVA (REFTEL) EXCEPT FOR PARTS ABOUT SINO-INDIAN RELATIONS. WE PRESUME THIS REFLECTS GUIDANCE HAS BEEN SENT TO CHINESE MISSIONS. MOYNIHAN

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Message Attributes

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